

# Milken Institute School of Public Health

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Department of Environmental and Occupational Health

**PubH 6014.12 & PubH 6014.25  
2018**

**Environmental and Occupational Health Practicum  
(EHS&P and GEH)  
2 credits**

**Practicum Director (PD): EHS&P**

**Peter LaPuma, PhD, PE, CIH**

Associate Professor

202-994-5185, [plapuma@gwu.edu](mailto:plapuma@gwu.edu)

Advisees EHS&P Students

**Interim Practicum Director (PD): GEH**

**Amanda Northcross, PhD**

Assistant Professor

202-994-3970, [northcross@gwu.edu](mailto:northcross@gwu.edu)

Advisees GEH Students

*Returning July 2019:*

**Sabrina McCormick, PhD**

Associate Professor

202-994-3779, [sabmc@email.gwu.edu](mailto:sabmc@email.gwu.edu)

Advisees GEH students

**Please thoroughly review this syllabus and review the [list](#) of past practica prior to scheduling a meeting with your Practicum Director.**

**Administrative Assistance:**

Melanie Sollitt

202-994-5845, [eohtdept@gwu.edu](mailto:eohtdept@gwu.edu)

950 New Hampshire Ave, NW, 4th floor

Washington, DC

20052

**Course Description**

The departmental practicum is a professional broadening experience that entails mentorship in the field of Environmental and Occupational Health. A successful practicum is a three-way collaboration between the MPH Student, a site preceptor (mentor) and the practicum director (PD). The site preceptor (SP) has to be validated and should have a MPH or DrPH with at least 3 years of EOH relevant experience or a related science degree and 5 years of experience. The practicum is an opportunity to gain experience in an area that interests the student and often develops into the beginning of a career trajectory so careful thought should be given to the selection of a site and SP. The skill building during the practicum should fulfill at least one or more of the core competencies in the student's MPH program. The student is responsible for identifying and contacting a suitable SP, though a list of prior SPs and other forms of assistance is available. The overall effort entails 120 hours of skill building in the student's respective MPH program. Since this is a mentorship experience, the student is expected to be working on site under the guidance of the SP. This is not a program where the student is assigned a project and checks in occasionally. Only program specific skill building hours should be counted (e.g. general training, travel would not count for practicum hours). The entire practicum effort is

managed and tracked in the GWork for Public Health  
<http://publichealth.gwu.edu/academics/practicum>.

**Course Prerequisite(s):**

PubH 6004 - Environmental/Occupational Health-Sustainable World

**CITI Requirement**

You are required to complete the CITI Course in The Protection of Human Research Subjects prior to beginning your practicum. In order to fulfill this requirement,complete the Social and Behavioral Researchers or Biomedical module.

Registering for the CITI course:

1. Go to <https://www.citiprogram.org/>
2. Click: Register for the CITI course
3. Select Institution (GWU is under All Others,a drop-down list)
4. Create a new user-name and password
5. Enter your contact information
6. Under Select Curriculum, check Human Subjects Research Training and submit your selection
7. Select Social and Behavioral Research or Biomedical and submit
8. Select “No” to take the CITI Basic course module and submit
9. Select “No” to by pass the HIPS course module and submit
10. Select “No” to by pass the Good Clinical Practice in English course and submit
11. Select “No” to confirm your institution choice(George Washington University)

Once you have completed the course,email the certificate to Student Records at [gwsphrecords@gwu.edu](mailto:gwsphrecords@gwu.edu).

**Registering for the Practicum**

You may not enroll in PubH 6014 through online registration or by using the “EZ” form. Enroll in this course using a paper [Registration Transaction Form \(RTF\)](#). There will be space for you to attach your RTF to your project plan. Once your PD has approved your plan, they will sign the RTF and the department will send the form to GWSPH Student Records. You will be copied on that email.

**Core Competencies:**

See Program Specific Core Competencies at:

EHS&P – <http://publichealth.gwu.edu/programs/environmental-health-science-and-policy-mph>

GEH – <http://publichealth.gwu.edu/programs/global-environmental-health-mph>

(Please note that you will need to click on “[Program Guide-EHS&P](#) or [Program Guide-GEH](#) ” to see the Core Competencies from the department pages.)

<b>Course Learning Objectives – Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:</b>	<b>Meets Competency Number</b>
Practice skills based upon the program specific core competencies	Student will identify the core competencies they will accomplish in the practicum plan

**Required Texts:** None

**Methods of Instruction**

<input type="checkbox"/> Lectures	<input type="checkbox"/> Class and Small Group Discussions
<input type="checkbox"/> Case Studies	<input type="checkbox"/> Student Presentations
<input type="checkbox"/> Required Readings/Textbook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other [On Site Practice]
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommended/Supplemental Readings	<input type="checkbox"/> Other [Specify]

**Methods of Evaluation**

**Percent of Grade**

Credit or no credit is determined based on Site Preceptor evaluation (there is not a letter grade for this class).

**Class Policy**

Since this is a mentorship experience the student is expected to be working on site under the guidance of the SP. Only time spent on site working on program specific core competencies can be counted towards the 120 hour practicum experience.

**Participation**

On site presence is expected for the practicum.

**Grading Scale and Standards**

There is no letter grade for the class. There is only credit/no credit which is partially based on the SP's final evaluation.

**Practicum Expectations**

Since the practicum is in a professional working environment and the student represents GWU and their own potential job prospects, the highest integrity and professional behavior is expected at all times.

**Academic Integrity**

All Milken Institute School of Public Health Students are required to complete two (separate) online activities regarding academic integrity -- the GW Academic Integrity Activity and the Identifying and Avoiding Plagiarism Activity. Both activities must be completed within 2 weeks of starting your coursework at Milken Institute School of Public Health. - See more at: <https://publichealth.gwu.edu/integrity#sthash.FIIRdO5H.dpuf>

Please review the University's policy on academic integrity, located at [www.gwu.edu/~ntegrity/code.html](http://www.gwu.edu/~ntegrity/code.html) and complete the online training for all GWSPH students; All graded work must be completed in accordance with the George Washington University Code of Academic Integrity.

Academic dishonesty is defined as cheating of any kind, including misrepresenting one's own work, taking credit for the work of others without crediting them and without appropriate authorization, and the fabrication of information. Common examples of academically dishonest behavior include, but are not limited to, the following: cheating; fabrication; plagiarism; falsification and forgery of University academic documents; facilitating academic dishonesty.

**Students with Disabilities**

If you feel you may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, please contact your instructor privately to discuss specific needs. Please contact the Disability Support Services Office at 202.994.8250, <http://disabilitysupport.gwu.edu/>, to establish eligibility and to coordinate reasonable accommodations.

### **Adverse Weather/Class Cancellation**

In the advent of inclement weather or any other emergency, the Milken Institute School of Public Health will follow the decision of the University. Call the University hotline at 202.994.5050 or check the Human Resources status button at <http://hr.gwu.edu/adverse-weather-conditions-and-emergency-situations>. In the event of class cancellation, we will email you about rescheduling, assignments due, etc.

### **Emergency Preparedness and Response Procedures**

The University has asked all faculty to inform students of these procedures, prepared by the GW Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management in collaboration with the Office of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.

### **To Report an Emergency or Suspicious Activity**

Call the University Police Department at 202-994-6111 (Foggy Bottom) or 202-242-6111 (Mount Vernon).

### **Alert DC**

Alert DC provides free notification by e-mail or text message during an emergency. Visit GW Campus Advisories for a link and instructions on how to sign up for alerts pertaining to GW. If you receive an Alert DC notification during class, you are encouraged to share the information immediately.

### **GW Alert**

GW Alert provides popup notification to desktop and laptop computers during an emergency. In the event that we receive an alert to the computer in our classroom, we will follow the instructions given. You are also encouraged to download this application to your personal computer. Visit [GW Campus Advisories](#) to learn how.

### **Additional Information**

Additional information about emergency preparedness and response at GW or the University's operating status can be found on GW Campus Advisories (<http://CampusAdvisories.gwu.edu>) or by calling the GW Information Line at 202-994-5050.

### **University Policy on Religious Holidays**

- Students should notify faculty during the first week of the semester of their intention to be absent from an exam day on their day(s) of religious observance.
- Faculty should extend to these students the courtesy of absence without penalty on such occasions, including permission to make up examinations.
- Faculty who intend to observe a religious holiday should arrange at the beginning of the semester to reschedule missed classes or to make other provisions for their course-related activities.

### **Personal Support**

Counseling Center: The GW University Counseling Center offers a wide variety of counseling services to students including individual counseling, group counseling, academic support, career counseling, referral information, and alcohol/drug services. The Counseling Center is available to both undergraduate and graduate students. For more information: 2033 K Street, NW, #330, 202-994-5330, <http://counselingcenter.gwu.edu/>. Information on other available resources is available on the [GWU website](#) and in the [GWSPH Student Handbook](#).

## Timeline

### 4-5 Months Out

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#### Look for a Practicum

- If paid internship is desired, student should begin looking for opportunities because Federal positions begin to be advertised this early (i.e. Feb for summer internships). Pay attention to the EOH Opportunities emails sent by the department, job listings on the GWSPH Website and websites like usajobs.gov for intern opportunities.

### 2-3 Months Out

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#### Review & Plan

- Review the GWSPH Practicum Resources on the [website](#).
- Review [Practicum Student Guidebook](#) and [Syllabus](#).
- Set up appointment with your practicum director to discuss ideas.
- Complete CITI Training (see instructions on page 2).

#### Complete Profile

- Complete practicum profile in [GWork for Public Health](#) (see guidebook for detailed instructions).
- Watch updated [practicum training videos](#) on the Source.

#### Identify Site Preceptor(SP)

- Once you have found your site, begin search for a qualified SP. Make sure to communicate with your PD about your choice as approval is needed.

### 1-2 Months Out

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#### Assist Site Preceptor

- Once you have found your SP, send them a link to the [Site Preceptor Guidebook](#) and [SP Update](#). These resources will help them get started.
- SP registers in [GWork for Public Health](#) and submits a project description. The Practicum Director and Dean for Public Health Practice need to approve, so allow for some time for this.

#### Submit Project Plan

- Talk with your SP about what your role will be.
- Submit a project plan against the SP's project in GWork for Public Health. This needs to be approved by the SP and PD, so again, allow some time for this ([See instructional videos](#)).
- When submitting your project plan, you will need to attach an RTF. This RTF will be signed by your PD and sent to GWSPH Records. You will be copied on that email.
- RTF can take 1-2 weeks to process.

#### Begin Logging Hours

- Once your plan has been approved you will be able to begin logging hours.

### 60 Hours in

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- **Complete Midpoint Evaluation**
  - After completing 60 hours, you will be prompted to complete a midpoint evaluation. You will not be able to continue logging hours until the evaluation has been approved. **Please note: your SP may read your midpoint and final evaluation, please choose your words carefully.**

### 120 Hours In

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- **Your Final Evaluation**
  - After completing 120 hours, you will be prompted to complete a final evaluation.
  - Your PD and SP will review and sign off.

- **SP Final Evaluation**
  - Your SP will be prompted to complete an evaluation.
  - You will need to review and sign this evaluation. Your PD will also review and sign.
- **Practicum Complete!**
  - Once your final evaluation has been reviewed and signed, and your SP's evaluation has been reviewed and signed. The PD will assign you credit for the practicum.
  - If you have additional feedback that you would like to share about your experience, please contact your PD.

### Past Sites and Projects

Site	Project
Alexandria Health Department	Alexandria HD Pool Operator Evaluation
Alexandria Health Dept - Env Health	Alexandria Health Department Aquatic Health Code
Alexandria Health Dept (Env Health Mgr)	Alexandria Community Env Health Assessment
Amtrak (Occ Health)	Industrial Hygiene Data Management
Armed Forces Pest Management Board	Researching the current status of permethrin treated service uniforms in all services of the U.S. military
Association of Occ & Env Clinic	Occupational Asthma Reviews
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials	Environmental Health Intern
Atrium Environmental Health and Safety Services, LLC	Project Coordinator, Manufacturing Sciences Support
BRAC	Improving fecal sludge management system in South East Asian Countries
Center for Disease Control Internship (CDC)	Disaster Response (Japan Radiation Exp)
Chemical Safety Board (USCSB)	Preventing Industrial Accidents in the United States
Children's Environmental Health Network (CEHN)	DC Healthy Environments for Child Care and Preschools (HECCP)
Children's Environmental Health Network (CEHN)	Eco-Healthy Child Care
Childrens Medical Center (Healthy Schools)	Investigate Health Complaints in K-12 Schools
Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC)	MEDIVAC Injury Cause Coding (MICC) Surveillance System
Congressional Research Service	Asthma Prevention and Control
DC Department of Health	DC Healthy Corners Food Survey
Dept of Health and Human Services	HHS Headquarters Hazard Communication Plan
Dept of Homeland Security (DHS)	Draft Occ Health Procedures for Incident Responders at 24 hour call center
District Dept of the Environment	District Climate Mitigation Plan Intern
Division of Occupational Health and Safety, NIH	NIH Chemical Monitoring Review

Division of Occupational Health and Safety, NIH	Assessing and Mitigating Workplace Hazards
Env Protection Agency Intern (EPA) ORD Water Team	Natural Gas Hydrofracking (ORD Water Team)
EPA - CRA Writing Team	Cumulative Risk Assessment Guidelines Addressing Vulnerable Populations
EPA - Hydrofracking	Drinking Water Quality and Hydraulic Fracturing
EPA - Office of R&D	Risk Assessment Forum
EPA - ORD	Assist in developing policy options for public health interventions - technical
EPA - Wetlands	Surface Coal Mining and Human Health
EPA Office of Radiation	Communicating Radiation Risk to Tribal Nations
EPA Office of Water	Climate Change and Water Policy
EPA Office of Water	Pharmaceuticals in Water
EPA Office of Water	Cyanobacterial Harmful Algal Blooms
EPA Office of Water, Health and Ecological Criteria Division, Human Health Risk Assessment Branch	Development of Water Quality Criteria for Cyanotoxins
EPA Stratospheric Protection Division	Tribal Responsible Appliance Disposal (RAD) Program
EPA SunWise Program	SunWise Program Support
EPA, ORD	Science Support for Clean Water Act
EPA/OW/OST/HECD/HHRAB	Development of Water Quality Criteria for cyanotoxins
Fairfax County Health Dept	Environmental Hazards Investigation
Federal Reserve Board	Noise exposure in the workplace.
Gibb Epidemiology Consulting	Global Burden of Disease from Metals in Food
GWU Risk Management Office	On-line Health and Safety Training Video
Health and Environmental Sciences Institute (HESI)	Cumulative Risk Assessment Project
Health and Human Service (HHS) - Facility Mgt	Sustainability Outreach Program
HHS (1 hr) & Univ of Michigan (1 hr)	HHS Headquarters Spill Plan Development
Hospital Preparedness Programs in Climate Change	Social Solutions International
Internal Revenue Service (IRS) - EHS Office	EOH Safety Programs at IRS Worksites
International Rescue Committee	Health Advocate Intern
Keep America Beautiful	Waste Recycling Motivations

Laura Welch on Construction Chart Book (occ safety)	Update Construction Chart Book (Occ Injury)
Loudoun County Health Department	Swimming Pool Health Safety Surveys
Maryland Dept of the Environment	Waste Sludge Compliance for Land Application
Mine Safety and Health Admin (MSHA)	Silica Exposure in Coal Mining
National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)	Environmental Health Internship
National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)	Introduction to Environmental Public Health Practice
National Inst for Occ Safety and Health (NIOSH)	Global Occupational Safety and Health Research
National Institute of Health (NIH)	Occupational Lab Safety Inspections
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health	Global Occupational Safety and Health Research
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences-Bethesda	Communicating the Health Cobenefits of Climate Change Mitigation
National Naval Medical Center	Ship Maintenance Health Inspections
National Ocean Service (branch of NOAA)	Changing climate conditions and one health
National Park Service	National Park Service Occupational Health
National Park Service & Center for Climate Change Comm (4C) Transferred to MPH@GW	Starts Mid June
National Resource Defence Council (NRDC)	Natural Gas Hydrofracking Safety
National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition	Climate Policy on Carbon Markets, Agricultural Offsets, and Conservation Programs
Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center	Toxicological Risk of Mixtures: phthalates
NCER, EPA	Health Impacts from Air Particulate Matter
NIH - National Inst of Health, DHHS	Contamination From CAFOs
NIH Child Studies	Pesticides and Reproductive Health
Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)	Radiation Epidemiology and Protection
Occ Health Internship Program (OHIP)	Occ Health with Labor Union in Berley, CA
Office of Congresswoman Diana DeGette	Environ Health Policy Intern
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness & Response, US Department of Health & Human Services	Neutropenia Medical Countermeasure Response Strategy
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)	Health sector participation in the implementation of the Minamata convention on Mercury
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)	Climate Change Summit in Rio



Partners of the Americas (POA)	Monitoring and Evaluation Intern
Population Services International	SRH and GBV Integration into HIV Programming
Population Services International (PSI)	PSI Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Program
Population Services International (PSI)	Sanitation Technology Desk Study and Country Profiles
Population Services Int (PSI)	WASH and Water Quality Intern
Project Medishare Haiti	Medical Surveillance in Haiti
Public Health Institute, USAID	Communication and Knowledge Management of Family Planning and Environment (FP/E) Resources
Relief International	Field Experience in Syria Emergency Response
Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice & Human Rights	Non-state Actors and the Right to Food
Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education	Occup Health Internship Program - New York Taxi Cab Alliance
South Texas Env Edu Research (STEER)	Community Outreach in Hispanic/Indian Populations
Tetra Tech	Global Disease from Foodborne Cadmium
The Children's Environmental Health Network	DC Healthy Environments for Child Care and Preschools (HECCP)
Trees for the Future	Integrated Landscape Management for Food Security in Africa
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Building Climate Change Resiliency and Awareness
U.S. Peace Corps	Air Quality in Peace Corp countries
United Nations Foundation	Exposure Methods for Indoor Air Pollution (Cookstoves)
Univ of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio	South Texas Environmental Education & Research (STEER)
Univeristy of Queensland	Coal seam gas water contamination in Australia
Universidad San Francisco de Quito	Research on Environmental Enteropathy
US Chem Safety Board	Hotwork Incidents among US Industrial Workers
US Chemical Safety Board	Effectiveness of Health and Safety Recommendations at Enactment of Federal Regulation
US Chemical Safety Board	Hydraulic Fracturing: Analyze of trends among incidents that occurred at exploration and production facilities thought the US
US Chemical Safety Board (USCSB)	Hot Work Data Follow-Up Project
US Green Building Council	Health Metrics and Green Buildings
US Green Building Council (Intern)	Health Assessment Assistantship

US Green Building Council (USGBC)	Green building and employee health care costs
US Green Building Council (USGBC)	Health Metrics in LEED Buildings
US PHS - COSTEP (Intern)	Industrial Hygiene Surveys in Biomed
USAID - Env Dept	International Water Supply and Sanitation Indicators
USDA	Food and Safety Economics
USDA Climate Change Program Office	Communicating the Effects of Climate Change on Food Security
USEPA, Office of Water	Climate Change and Water Resources
USGCRP	US Global Change Research Program Health Coordinator
Walter Reed National Military Medical Center	Naval Preventive Medicine Surveys
WASH Advocates	WASH Advocates Research Assistant
WASH Advocates	Prep for Water for the World Act (Sen Simon)
WASH Advocates	WASH and HIV Research Assistant
WASH Advocates Internship	Water and Hygiene Advocate Research
Water Env Research Foundation (WERF)	Water quality in Chesapeake?
Water Envir Research Foundation	Trace Organics in Biosolids Knowledge
Water for People	Sanitation Technology Desk Study and Country Profiles
Women and Children's Hope Foundation (WCHF)	Reforestation and Soil Sustainability Project